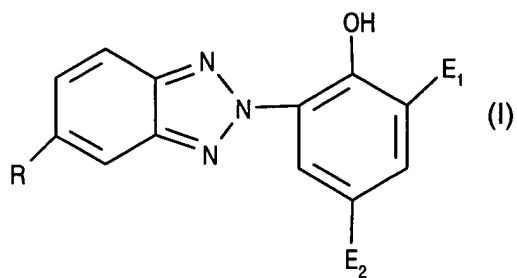


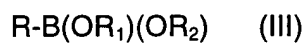
**In the Claims**

**1-5. (cancelled)**

**6. (previously presented)** A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I

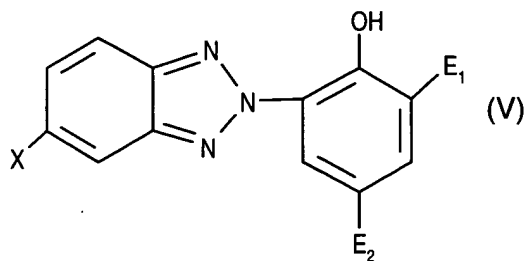


by the reaction of an arylboronic acid or ester of formula III



where R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 12 carbon atoms, or R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> together are alkylene of 2 to 4 carbon atoms;

with a 5-substituted benzotriazole of formula V



where X is chloro, bromo or iodo, or tosylate,

in the presence of an effective amount of a palladium (II) catalyst at a temperature between 10 to 100°C, and

where

R is phenyl, naphthyl, biphenyl, 9-phenanthryl or said phenyl, naphthyl, biphenyl or 9-phenanthryl substituted by one to three alkyl of 1 to 18 carbon atoms, phenylalkyl of 7 to 15 carbon atoms,  $R_3S-$ ,  $R_3SO-$ ,  $R_3SO_2$ , aryl of 6 to 10 carbon atoms, perfluoroalkyl of 1 to 12 carbon atoms, halogen, nitro, cyano, carboxyl, alkoxycarbonyl of 2 to 19 carbon atoms, hydroxyl, alkoxy of 1 to 18 carbon atoms, aryloxy of 6 to 10 carbon atoms, aralkoxy of 7 to 15 carbon atoms, vinyl, acetyl, acetamido, amino, dialkylamino of 2 to 12 carbon atoms, formyl, thioalkoxy of 1 to 18 carbon atoms, hydroxymethyl, aminomethyl, halomethyl, sulfato, phosphato or where any two substituents form a benzo ring with the aryl moiety to which they are attached,

$R_3$  is alkyl of 1 to 18 carbon atoms, phenylalkyl of 7 to 15 carbon atoms or aryl of 6 to 10 carbon atoms,

$E_1$  is hydrogen, straight or branched alkyl of 1 to 24 carbon atoms, phenylalkyl of 7 to 15 carbon atoms, phenyl, or said phenyl or said phenylalkyl substituted on the phenyl ring by 1 to 4 alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms,

$E_2$  is straight or branched alkyl chain of 1 to 24 carbon atoms, straight or branched chain alkenyl of 2 to 18 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 5 to 12 carbon atoms, phenylalkyl of 7 to 15 carbon atoms, phenyl, or said phenyl or said phenylalkyl substituted on the phenyl ring by 1 to 3 alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms; or  $E_2$  is alkyl of 1 to 24 carbon atoms or alkenyl of 2 to 18 carbon atoms substituted by one or more -OH, - $OCOE_3$ , - $NH_2$ , - $NHCOE_3$  or - $COOE_3$ , or mixtures thereof; or said alkyl or said alkenyl interrupted by one or more -O- which can be unsubstituted or substituted by one or more -OH groups; where  $E_3$  is hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 24 carbon atoms, and where said alkyl is interrupted by one or more -O- and which can be substituted by one or more -OH or - $OR_{21}$  groups where  $R_{21}$  is alkyl of 1 to 12 carbon atoms; and

with the proviso that when  $E_1$  is hydrogen or alkyl, R is not phenyl.

7. **(original)** A process according to claim 6 wherein X is bromo.

8. **(original)** A process according to claim 6 wherein the reaction is carried out at a temperature between 50 to 95°C.

9. **(original)** A process according to claim 6 wherein the amount of palladium (II) catalyst is 0.01 to 10 mol percent.

10. **(original)** A process according to claim 6 wherein additionally a ligand is present.

11. **(original)** A process according to claim 10 wherein the ligand is triphenylphosphine, 2-(di-tert-butylphosphino)biphenyl, 1,1'-bis[2,4,8,10-tetrakis(tert-butyl)-dibenzo[d,f][1,3,2]dioxaphosphepin-6-yl]-ferrocene, tris(2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphite or 2,2',2''-nitrido[triethyl-tris(3,3',5,5'-tetra-tert-butyl-1,1'biphenyl-2,2'-diyl)phosphite].

12. **(original)** A process according to claim 11 wherein the ligand is triphenylphosphine.

13. **(original)** A process according to claim 6 wherein the process is an anhydrous process with dioxane as solvent and potassium fluoride as a base.

14. **(original)** A process according to claim 6 wherein the process is carried out using n-propanol or isopropanol as solvent with a small amount of water present and aqueous sodium carbonate as base.

15-31. **(canceled)**